

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 4 are amended for clarification purposes only. No new matter has been added.

Entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.312. The Amendment is needed to remedy potential inconsistencies as described below.

Allowed independent claim 1 refers to both "at least one bent portion" and "the bent portion." To avoid confusion, "the bent portion" is changed to "the at least one bent portion," to make it more clear that claim 1 covers both a structure in which a single bent portion changes the direction of the exhaust stream by approximately ninety degrees, and a structure in which a plurality of bent portions collectively change the direction of the exhaust stream by approximately ninety degrees. Because allowable base claim 1 is not substantively changed, no further search or examination of claim 1 is necessary. The bent portion in claim 4 may be different from the "at least one bent portion" in claim 1. To avoid confusion, claim 4 is amended to recite that the at least one bent portion of the exhaust duct comprises a plurality of bent portions, and that a bent portion among the plurality of bent portions has a bending angle of 45 degrees or less. This amendment is fully supported by the specification and Fig. 6. Furthermore, claim 4 remains patentable for its dependency on allowable base claim 1 and for the additional features recited therein. Moreover, no new issues requiring undue consideration are necessary since the Amendment simply corrects minor informalities in claims 1 and 4.

This Amendment was not made earlier because the Applicants only recently became aware of the potential inconsistency.

Thus, entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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